

Message Text

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TAGS:OVIP, SOPN (VANCE, CYRUS R.)

SUBJECT:TRAVELLING PRESS SUMMARY, MORNING AUGUST 8

NO. 6

1-NEWSPAPERS

WASHINGTON POST -- HOAGLAND AND LIPPMAN FROM ALEXANDRIA

LEAD: "SECSTATE VANCE AND EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT SADAT OPENED
TALKS LAST NIGHT THAT MAY DETERMINE THE FATE OF THE
MIDDLE EAST PEACE INITIATIVE LAUNCHED BY SADAT WITH
HIS VISIT TO JERUSALEM EIGHT MONTHS AGO."

OTHER POINTS:

-THE OUTCOME OF THESE TALKS IS CRUCIAL IN DETERMINING IF
THE PEACE INITIATIVE WILL CONTINUE. NEITHER SIDE INDICATED
PUBLICLY IF IT HAD NEW PROPOSALS FOR BREAKING THE DEADLOCK.

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-THE ISRAELI PERCEPTION THAT US PRESSURE ON THEM HAD EASED
WAS BALANCED BY EGYPTIAN DOUBTS ABOUT US SUPPORT FOR
SADAT'S PEACE EFFORT. EGYPTIANS WERE STUNG BY US CHARAC-
TERIZATION OF SADAT'S SUSPENSION OF TALKS AS DISAPPOINT-
ING AND BY THE LACK OF AN AMERICAN PLAN. THIS WAS

REFLECTED IN AL AHRAH EDITORIAL WHICH CRITICIZED THE

US POSITION.

-THE EGYPTIANS BELIEVE THEY HAVE MADE SUBSTANTIAL CONCESSIONS WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN MATCHED BY ISRAEL.
-VANCE AND KAMEL HAD NOTHING TO REPORT TO THE PRESS AFTER THEIR FIRST ROUND.

NYT -- GWERTZMAN FROM ALEXANDRIA

LEAD: "SECSTATE VANCE OPENED A DECISIVE ROUND OF TALKS WITH PRES. SADAT TONIGHT IN AN EFFORT TO PERSUADE THE EGYPTIAN LEADER NOT TO LOSE PATIENCE ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH ISRAEL FOR A SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST."

OTHER POINTS:

-IN THEIR MEETING SADAT AND VANCE SPOKE ABOUT THE CRISIS RESULTING FROM SADAT'S REJECTION OF DIRECT TALKS UNTIL ISRAEL MEETS HIS CONDITIONS. IT WAS NOT IMMEDIATELY KNOWN IF VANCE HAS SUCCEEDED IN WINNING SADAT'S CONFIDENCE IN CONTINUING THE DIALOGUE WITH ISRAEL.
-IN AN EARLIER MEETING, KAMEL STRESSED EGYPT'S UNHAPPINESS WITH WHAT IT TERMED ISRAELI INTRANSIGENCE.
-AMERICAN OFFICIALS SAID THAT ALTHOUGH ISRAEL HAD NOT SHOWN THE NECESSARY FLEXIBILITY SO FAR, IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT SADAT REALIZE THE US COULD NOT USE AN EFFECTIVE MEDIATOR IF EGYPT REFUSED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TALKS.
-US OFFICIALS BELIEVE THE NEGOTIATIONS ARE AT A CRUCIAL UNCLASSIFIED

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STAGE. THEY ARE CONCERNED THAT SADAT APPEARS TO BE RULING OUT ANYTHING BUT COMPLETE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL; THEY BELIEVE ISRAEL MAY BE PERSUADED TO MAKE SOME CONCESSIONS IN GAZA AND THE WEST BANK BUT NOT COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL.
-ISRAELI OFFICIALS WERE APPARENTLY PLEASED BY THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS WHICH MAKE EGYPT THE SPOILER AND NOT ISRAEL.

CSM -- SOUTHERLAND FROM ALEXANDRIA

LEAD: "NEARING THE END OF HIS MIDDLE EAST PEACE-KEEPING MISSION, SECSTATE VANCE IS SAID TO HAVE CONFRONTED A STERN AND SKEPTICAL SADAT."

OTHER POINTS:

-SADAT IS MORE SUSPICIOUS THAN EVER OF THE ISRAELIS. DIPLOMATS BELIEVE HE BROKE OFF DIRECT TALKS BECAUSE HE IS IMPATIENT, BECAUSE HE THINKS THE ISRAELIS ARE STALLING, AND BECAUSE OF THE GROWING IMPORTANCE TO HIM OF OBJECTIONS WITHIN EGYPT AND THE ARAB WORLD TO HIS PEACE INITIATIVE.
-VANCE'S TASK IS TO FIND THE MIDDLE GROUND BETWEEN THE TWO POSITIONS. THE US REFUSES TO IMPOSE A SOLUTION ON ISRAEL;

THE US ALSO REFUSED TO ACCEPT THE ISRAELI IDEA OF A PARTIAL SETTLEMENT.

-SOUTHERLAND MENTIONS THE POSSIBILITY OF A WASHINGTON SUMMIT.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE -- NO BRODER

WALL ST. JOURNAL -- NO HOUSE

NEW YORK DAILY NEWS -- ANTEVIL FROM ALEXANDRIA

LEAD: "DECLARING THAT THE US IS .STAEDFAST IN OUR SEARCH FOR...PEACE,. SECSTATE VANCE FLEW HERE YESTERDAY IN AN UNCLASSIFIED

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EFFORT TO PERSUADE SADAT TO RESUME PEACE TALKS WITH ISRAEL."

OTHER POINTS:

-VANCE DECLINED TO DISCUSS PROPOSALS HE WAS BRINGING SADAT FROM CARTER AND FROM ISRAELI LEADERS.

-REPORTS INDICATED BEGIN AND DAYAN HAD NOT BUDGED FROM THEIR REFUSAL TO AGREE TO WITHDRAWAL IN ADVANCE OF TALKS.

BOSTON HERALD AMERICAN -- NO WALLACH

WASHINGTON STAR -- BRADSHER FROM ALEXANDRIA

LEAD: "SECSTATE VANCE HAS WORKED OUT WITH EGYPTIAN PRES. SADAT A FORMULA FOR KEEPING MIDDLE EAST PEACE NEGOTIATIONS GOING, INFORMED SOURCES SAID TODAY."

OTHER POINTS:

-THE FORMULA WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN VANCE-SADAT PRESS CONFERENCE TONIGHT. THE FORMULA WAS BELIEVED TO ALLOW SADAT TO WITHDRAW GRACEFULLY FROM HIS OBJECTION TO DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS. THE AGREEMENT WAS REACHED DURING A RELAXED PRIVATE CONVERSATION LAST NIGHT.

-H. CARTER SAID "THE MEETING WAS A VERY GOOD SESSION."

-VANCE-KAMEL TALKS COVERED THE SITUATION IN LEBANON.

-QUANDT WILL GO TO JERUSALEM TO BRIEF ISRAELI LEADERS; ATHERTON WILL VISIT SAUDI ARABIA AND JORDAN.

2. WIRES

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AP -- NO BYLINE FROM ALEXANDRIA

LEAD: "SECSTATE VANCE HUDDLED WITH EGYPTIAN FONMIN KAMEL UNCLASSIFIED

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TODAY IN A SECOND ROUND OF TALKS AIMED AT REVIVING STALLED PEACE TALKS WITH ISRAEL."

OTHER POINTS:

-BOTH SIDES SPOKE FAVORABLY OF MONDAY'S TALKS BUT GAVE NO HINT OF BREAKTHROUGH.

UPI -- WEBB FROM ALEXANDRIA

LEAD: "US AND EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS TRIED ANEW TODAY TO FIND A WAY TO KEEP EGYPTIAN PRES. SADAT'S PEACE INITIATIVE ALIVE, BUT NO IMMEDIATE RESUMPTION OF DIRECT EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI TALKS SEEMED LIKELY."

OTHER POINTS:

-VANCE'S TRIP HAS DEVELOPED INTO A PROCESS OF SIMPLY KEEPING THE INITIATIVE GOING, NO MATTER HOW SLOWLY. THE AMERICANS THINK THAT IS BETTER THAN RETURNING TO WASHINGTON WITH NOTHING.
-LITTLE HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED BEYOND VANCE'S DELIVERING THE LETTERS FROM CARTER.

REUTERS -- GREGSON FROM ALEXANDRIA

LEAD: "PROSPECTS OF GETTING STALLED MIDDLE EAST PEACE TALKS RESTARTED LOOKED A LITTLE BRIGHTER TODAY AFTER A MEETING IN ALEXANDRIA BETWEEN PRES. SADAT AND SECSTATE VANCE."

OTHER POINTS:

-THIS IS TOUGHEST ASSIGNMENT OF VANCE'S CAREER.
-US SOURCES SAID NO SIGNIFICANT NEW MOVES WERE PRESENTED IN THE JERUSALEM TALKS.
-US SPOKESMAN SAID VANCE-SADAT MEETING WENT WELL.
-AL AHRAH CITED AMERICAN SOURCES AS HAVING SAID THE ISRAELIS HAD MADE CLEAR THEIR INTENTION TO BE MORE
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FLEXIBLE EXCEPT ON RETURN TO 1967 BORDERS AND THE CREATION OF A PALESTINIAN STATE.

FYI: AT 11:30 A.M. WEDNESDAY, WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCED WASHINGTON SUMMIT FOR SEPT. 5.

3. NETWORKS

CBS - KALB FROM ALEXANDRIA

SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED. THE US DELEGATION IS SUDDENLY RADIATING GUARDEDLY POSITIVE VIBRATIONS, AND AMERICAN OFFICIALS WON'T SHED AN ILLUMINATING SYLLABLE ON WHAT'S HAPPENED TO PRODUCE THE SHIFT OF MOODS FROM HEAVY FRUSTRATION TO A SENSE OF SOMETHING MAY BE IN THE WORKS TO BREAK THE EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI DEADLOCK BLOCKING THE RESUMPTION OF PEACE TALKS. THESE NEW US VIBRATIONS BEGAN EMANATING AFTER LAST NIGHT'S TWO-HOUR TETE-A-TETE BETWEEN PRESIDENT SADAT AND SECRETARY VANCE WITH VANCE PRESSING SADAT TO CHANGE HIS MIND ABOUT RESUMING TALKS WITH ISRAEL. IT WAS SADAT WHO HAD BROKEN THEM OFF. THE EGYPTIAN SPOKESMAN LATER SAID THERE WOULD BE A FOLLOW-UP SESSION TONIGHT. THAT WAS WHAT THE AMERICANS WERE HOPING FOR BUT HADN'T BEEN SURE THEY'D GET. THEN, THE AMERICAN SPOKESMAN, IN A RARE DISPLAY OF ACCENTING THE UP-BEAT ON THIS TRIP, SAID VANCE FELT THAT THE MEETING WAS VERY GOOD AND THAT THIS WAS A MEANINGFUL CHARACTERIZATION ALTHOUGH THE SPOKESMAN QUICKLY ADDED THAT THE PEACE PROCESS STILL REMAINS IN A CRITICAL AND CRUCIAL STAGE.

NBC & ABC - NOTHING FROM TRIP ON MORNING. ANCHORS GAVE BRIEF REPORTS. YY CHRISTOPHER

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